# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

## NORTHERN TIER NATIONAL HIGH ADVENTURE

## ***When One Signature Is All You Have & Unique Circumstances***

**One parent is deceased:** Signature of the living parent and a copy of the death certificate for the deceased parent.

**Full Custody awarded to one parent:** Parent with full custody should sign the form and provide a copy of the court documents that attest to this.

**Shared Custody:** Both parents should sign the form.

**Father not recognized**: Sometimes a father is not in the picture right from day one, so in this case you must look at the birth certificate. If the father is not listed, have the mother sign the form and make a copy of the birth certificate showing no father is listed and include this copy with the permission form. If the father is listed on the birth certificate but not in the picture see next section.

**Parent is MIA:** If one parent has abandoned their child then the other parent should have a legal document from the courts attesting to the fact that that parent has surrendered their rights to the child (either voluntarily or involuntarily). Provide a copy of the court documents with the permission form.

**Parent Surrenders Rights:** If one parent surrenders their legal rights to a child – full custody is awarded to the other parent. Provide court documents.

**Alternative Family Member "Guardian":** In some instances children will reside with grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. in place of their biological parents for a variety of reasons. Technically speaking they still need the signatures of the **legal** guardian. If the grandparent etc. has legal guardianship they may sign the form. Provide a copy of the court documents. If the grandparent etc. does not have legal guardianship, the parents of the child should sign the form. If this is not feasible (illness, injury, etc.) then have the temporary guardian contact a lawyer who may attest to their individual circumstances or have them contact Canadian Immigration for additional information.

**Adoption:** The legal parent(s) should sign the form. In the event of a single parent adoption one signature is sufficient. Provide a copy of the adoption paperwork to show single parent adoption – copies of adoption paperwork is appreciated for all adoptions; however leniency is often given due to the sensitive nature that some children are not aware of these proceedings. Recommend that they contact Canadian Immigration Services if they have questions or concerns.

**Foster Child:** Signature from foster parent AND a letter from the child services provider stating the child is under the custody of the foster parent and that the child has permission to cross state and/or international boundaries. In this case permission is needed from the foster care provider and equally from the child services provider – provide additional supporting documents as needed.

**Surrogacy:** The birth parent listed does not have legal rights to the child – the biological parents do. If this rare, but unique circumstance is encountered, a short note from the biological parents explaining this discrepancy from the birth certificate is appreciated. Both biological parents should sign the permission form.

**Step-parents**: Do not have the authority to authorize travel for their step child unless they have been awarded legal guardianship by a court (usually through adoption). If this is the case they may sign the form together with the biological parent they are married to. They should provide court documents to support their legal status as guardian.